

Message Text

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FOLLOWING REPEAT CAIRO 15415 SENT ACTION SECSTATE 09 NOV 76

QUOTE UNCLAS CAIRO 15415

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TAGS: PFOR, US, EG

SUBJ: CODEL FLOWERS MEETING WITH PRES SADAT

1. PRES SADAT, IN FIRST MEETING WITH MEMBERS OF CONGRESS SINCE US ELECTION, RECEIVED CODEL FLOWERS FOR 50-MINUTE QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION NOV 9. WIVES OF MEMBERS, STAFF AND AMB ATTENDED. SADAT MADE SHORT OPENING STATEMENT IN WHICH HE EXPRESSED PLEASURE AT PERSONAL CONTACT WITH CONGRESSMEN AT SUCH AN IMPORTANT TIME, ESPECIALLY AFTER US ELECTIONS. SADAT SAID HE LOOKING FORWARD TO CONSTRUCTIVE ERA BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES WHICH HAS ALREADY BEGUN WITH AID AND NEW UNDERSTANDING FROM CONGRESS. PRES SAID HE HAD FOLLOWED US ELECTIONS CLOSELY AND IS PREPARING TO GET TO KNOW THE NEW ADMINISTRATION AND WORK HAND-IN-HAND WITH IT AS HE HAD WITH PRESENT ADMINISTRATION.

2. LEBANON: SADAT SAID CODEL SHOULD NOT BE MISLED BY SIGNS OF ARAB DISUNITY. CONFLICT IS A HABIT OF ARABS AND ALWAYS WILL BE. HOWEVER, OCT WAR PROVED THAT WHEN THERE IS BATTLE, ARABS FIGHT AS ONE. "WE HAVE NEVER DIFFERED ON STRATEGY, ONLY ON TACTICS." LEBANESE TRAGEDY OF PAST 18 MONTHS FINALLY
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RESULTED IN A SIX PARTY SUMMIT. SOME COUNTRIES HAD WANTED

4, 5 OR 7 PARTY SUMMIT BUT EGYPT HAD INSISTED ON SIX AND THIS WAS FINALLY ACCEPTED. IN LESS THAN TWO DAYS IN RIYADH, ARABS REACHED FULL UNDERSTANDING AND PROBLEMS WITH SYRIA AND EVEN JORDAN WERE RESOLVED. THEN, CAIRO SUMMIT OF 20 REACHED UNANIMOUS AGREEMENT AND LEBANESE PROBLEM NOW ON WAY TO BEING SOLVED. "I AM QUITE RELAXED BECAUSE I SEE REALY PROGRESS TOWARD SOLUTION, BUT IT STILL TAKE TIME."

4. REP FLOWERS SAID CODEL ESPECIALLY PLEASED TO BE IN EGYPT AFTER HAVING MET PRES IN WASHINGTON LAST YEAR. IT IS THE FIRST TRIP TO EGYPT FOR MOST OF CODEL AND ON BEHALF OF CODEL, HE WISHED TO EXPRESS GRATITUDE FOR SADAT'S STATESMANSHIP.

5. REP BADILLO ASKED WHAT CHANCES ARE FOR PERMANENT PEACE AND WHAT CAN US CONGRESS DO TO ASSIST? SADAT RESPONDED THAT FOR EGYPTIAN SIDE THERE ARE NO OBSTACLES TO PEACE. "I AM READY FOR PEACE". FOR 28 YEARS, SADAT SAID, WE HAVE HAD STATE OF BELLIGERENCY. ISRAEL OCCUPIED ARAB TERRITORIES IN 1967. "I ASK ONLY THAT ISRAEL RETURN THIS LAND AND THAT WE SIT IN GENEVA WITH ALL PARTIES - EGYPTIANS, SYRIANS, JORDANIANS, PALESTINAINS, LEBANESE AND ISRAELIS-- AND OFFICIALLY END THE STATE OF BELLIGERENCY WITH A PEACE AGREEMENT." FROM US CONGRESS, SADAT ASKED ONLY THAT IT BE OBJECTIVE AND THAT IT PUT ALL FACTS TOGETHER BEFORE MAKING DECISIONS. PRES THANKED THE CONGRESS FOR THE HELP AND UNDERSTANDING THAT EGYPT NOW RECEIVING.

6. REP FISH SAID CONGRESS APPRECIATES EVERYTHING SADAT HAS DONE. WITHIN FEW DAYS CODEL WILL BE MEETING WITH PRIMIN RABIN. "WHAT MESSAGE CAN WE TAKE TO HIM FROM YOU?" SADAT RESPONDED THAT MESSAGE SHOULD BE THAT FROM ARAB SIDE, "WE ARE READY FOR PEACE." A PEACE THAT SHOULD BE ESTABLISHED ON SOLID GROUND SO IT WILL BE PERMANENT. LET US HOPE HE TOO IS READY." REP FISH ASKED IF DIRECT CONTACTS COULD TAKE PLACE. SADAT SAID THIS IS FREQUENTLY MENTIONED BUT IT INVOLVES A PSYCHOLOGICAL PROBLEM. FOR 28 YEARS THERE HAS BEEN WAR AND BLOODSHED BETWEEN THE TWO SIDES. AGAINST THIS BACKGROUND HE CANNOT BE ASKED TO SIT WITH RABIN AT THIS TIME. "LET US SIT TOGETHER IN GENEVA. ISN'T THAT DIRECT"? MORE TIME IS REQUIRED

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TO RESOLVE PSYCHOLOGICAL PROBLEM. REP FISH REITERATED HE HOPED THERE COULD BE PRELIMINARY CONTACT BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES. SADAT SAID WITH SOME EMPHASIS THAT HE HAD POWER TO DO SO, BUT HE WOULD BE STONED BECAUSE ISRAELIS STILL OCCUPY EGYPTIAN LAND. HE ASKED RHETORICALLY WOULD US HAVE BEEN WILLING TO SIT WITH JAPENESE AFTER PEARL HARBOR? IF EGYPT AGREED TO DIRECT TALKS WHILE THEIR LAND IS OCCUPIED, SADAT SAID, ISRAEL WOULD ALWAYS HAVE NEGOTIATING LEVER AND

SAY IF YOU DO NOT AGREE, WE WILL KEEP YOUR LAND. ISRAELI ATTITUDE SINCE BEN GURION, SADAT SAID, HAS BEEN TO IMPOSE PEACE ON ARABS BUT PEACE CANNOT BE IMPOSED, IT CAN ONLY BE AGREED UPON. "I AM GOING TO SIT WITH THEM IN GENEVA. ISN'T THAT DIRECT TALKS?"

7. REP DANIELSON SAID ONE OF HJC RESPONSIBILITIES IS TERRORISM AND ASKED WHAT SUGGESTIONS SADAT HAD FOR HANDLING IT? SADAT SAID THAT ALL ARAB GOVTS HAD AGREED TO CONDEMN TERRORISM EXCEPT LIBYA AND PDRY, AND EGYPT HAS PALESTINIANS WHO KILLED US AMB IN KHARTOUM IN PRISON IN EGYPT. THEY WILL STAY THERE EVEN THOUGH IT CREATES PROBLEMS FOR HIM WITH PALESTINIANS AND OTHERS. FURTHERMORE, PRES OF PDRY HAD AGREED AT RECENT SUMMIT TO CONDEMN TERRORISM AND NO LONGER WILL PDRY AIRPORTS BE OPENED TO HIJACKED PLANES. ARABS MUST NOW WORK ON LIBYA. SADAT REFERRED TO CARTER INTERVIEW IN TIME IN WHICH HE HAD SAID HE WANTED TO MAKE US WORLD LEADER NOT THROUGH USE OF POWER OR ECONOMIC PRESSURE BUT BY CONVEYING TO WORLD THAT US IS RIGHT AND DECENT. THIS IS WHAT EGYPT WANTS CONGRESS TO DO. "DON'T WIELD THE BIG STICK AND DON'T THREATEN, IT ONLY CREATES INFERIORITY COMPLEXIS." IT IS TRUE THAT US IS DECENT AND RIGHT. WHY NOT SHOW IT. PRES FORD HAS DEMONSTRATED THIS DECENCY AND HONESTY. "I DO NOT KNOW PRES-ELECT, BUT I UNDERSTAND HE ALWAYS KEEPS HIS PROMISES. THE MAIN POINT IS NOT TO THREATEN AND USE THE BIG STICKM

8. REP ASHBROOK SAID ONE OF PROBLEMS OF PALESTINIANS IS THE US IS THEIR IMAGE. THEY HAVE ADVOCATED TERRORISM AND ARAFAT IS ASSOCIATED WITH ACTS OF TERRORISM. SADAT SAID HE CONDEMNS ALL ACTS OF TERRORISM. AMERICANS SHOULD PUT THEMSELVES IN PLACE OF PALESTINIANS. FOR 28 YEARS THEY HAVE HAD NO LAND AND HAVE BEEN BEATEN AND CHASED BY ISRAELIS, EVEN IN LEBANON. THEY ARE DENIED THEIR HUMAN RIGHTS. MAYBE IT IS BE-
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CAUSE OF THEIR CONDITION THAT THIS COMES OUT..."I HAVE DISCUSSED SUBJECT WITH PRES FORD AND HOPE TO HAVE THE CHANCE TO DISCUSS IT WITH PRES-ELECT CARTER". SADAT SAID AS PART OF SETTLEMENT PALESTINIAN STATE MADE UP OF WEST BANK AND GAZA SHOULD BE CREATED AND IT WOULD THEN BE RESPONSIBLE BEFORE THE WORLD.

9. REP HUGHES SAID HJC HAS RESPONSIBILITY FOR ECONOMIC BOYCOTT, WHICH IS A VOLATILE ISSUE IN US. SADAT SAID THAT SPEAKING FRANKLY, CONGRESS HAD PUT EGYPTIANS IN VERY TIGHT POSITION BY MANNER IN WHICH THE BOYCOTT QUESTION HAS BEEN HANDLED. HE SAID BOYCOTT WAS ONLY ONE SMALL DIMENSION OF TOTAL PROBLEM. "LET US DEAL WITH BIG ISSUES AND SMALL ONES WILL RESOLVE THEMSELVES. LET US ACHIEVE PERMANENT PEACE." BOYCOTT HAS EXISTED FOR 28 YEARS AND IT CAN LAST "ANOTHER

SIX MONTHS UNTIL PRES ELECT CARTER IS READY TO GO TO GENEVA."
THE WAY CONGRESS HAS HANDLED BOYCOTT ISSUE WITH BIG STICK
AND PRESSURE HAS PUT US FRIENDS IN DIFFICULT POSITION.

10. REP MOORHEAD ASKED ABOUT EGYPTIANS MEASURES TO COMBAT
HIJACKING AND TERRORISM, ESPECIALLY AT CAIRO AIRPORT. SADAT
SAID MODERN ELECTRONIC DETECTING EQUIPMENT HAD BEEN
IMPORTED FROM THE US AND THAT NO HIJACKED PLANES COME TO
CAIRO AIRPORT. IF IT DOES, IT WILL NOT LEAVE NOR WILL HI-
JACKERS.

11. REP HYDE SAID RETURN OF OCCUPIED ARAB LAND MAY REQUIRE
SOME KIND OF GUARANTEE. WOULD ARABS ACCEPT SUCH GUARANTEE
FOR ISRAEL? SADAT REPLIED THAT HIS STRATEGY IN OCT 73 WAS
NOT TO LIBERATE ALL OF SINAI BUT TO DESTROY THE THEORY ON
WHICH ISRAEL WAS FOUNDED; THAT OF "SECURE BORDERS" WHICH
ISRAELIS USE AS JUSTIFICATION FOR EXPANSION. EGYPT COULD
HAVE HIT MAJOR ISRAELI CITIES WITH ITS MISSILES FROM 300
KM AWAY. EGYPT CANNOT AGREE TO THEORY OF SECURE BORDERS.
CODEL CAN TELL PRES ELECT CARTER THAT EGYPT IS READY
TO ACCEPT ANY KIND OF GUARANTEE FOR ISRAEL, EVEN A US
MILITARY SECURITY PACT, OR ONE FROM UNSC. HOWEVER, EGYPT
WILL ASK FOR SAME GUARANTEES. EGYPT IS ALSO PREPARED FOR
UN FORCES TO BE STATIONED AT SHARM AL-SHAikh TO GUARANTEE
FREE PASSAGE. "I AM READY FOR ANY US FORCES ON ALL MY FRONTIERS
OR A SECURITY PACT BETWEEN US AND ISRAEL. HOWEVER, WE CANNOT
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AGREE TO THEORY OF SECURE BORDERS. WITH MISSILES WITH RANGE
OF 300 KM, WHAT IS USE OF A FEW KMS HERE OR THERE."

12. IN CLOSING STATEMENT, SADAT SAID HE HAD READ PRES ELECT
CARTER'S INTERVIEW IN "TIME." HE LIKED VERY MUCH HIS THINKING
ON WORLD AFFAIRS, ESPECIALLY THAT UNDER HIS LEADERSHIP
US WOULD NOT TRY TO USE FORCE OR ECONOMIC PRESSURE TO
DEMONSTRATE THAT IT IS GREAT POWER AND MUST LEAD BY EXAMPLE
BECAUSE AMERICAN PEOPLE ARE RIGHT AND DECENT. CODEL
INDIVIDUALLY THANKED PRES SADAT FOR VERY FRUITFUL MEETING
AND HOSPITALITY CODEL IS ENJOYING IN EGYPT.

13. THIS MESSAGE HAS BEEN CLEARED BY CODEL.
EILTS

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